



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

9150 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY – DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242

(562) 940-2501



JERRY E. POWERS
Chief Probation Officer

August 17, 2015

TO: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Don Knabe

FROM: Jerry E. Powers 
Chief Probation Officer

SUBJECT: **DIAKONIA INC. GROUP HOME CONTRACT COMPLIANCE MONITORING
REVIEW**

The Department of Probation, Placement Permanency & Quality Assurance (PPQA), Group Home Monitor (GHM), conducted a review of Diakonia Inc. Group Home, in November 2014. Diakonia Inc. has three (3) sites, Maywright, Achieve and Home of Excellence, located in the Third Supervisorial District of San Bernardino County. They provide services to Los Angeles County Probation foster children and Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) foster children. According to Diakonia Inc.'s program statement, its purpose is to provide therapeutic treatment services to adolescents, focusing on behavior problems, interpersonal difficulties, low self-esteem, anger management, victims of abuse, poor school performance, substance abuse and family conflicts.

Diakonia Inc.-Maywright is a 6-bed site and is licensed to serve a capacity of six (6) boys, 6-17 years old and Non-Minor Dependents (NMD). Diakonia Inc.-Achieve is a six (6) bed site and is licensed to serve a capacity of six (6) girls, 6-17 years old and NMD. Diakonia Inc.-Home of Excellence is a six (6) bed site and is licensed to serve a capacity of six (6) girls, 6-17 years old. At the time of this review, Diakonia Inc. served three (3) Los Angeles County Probation children and three (3) Los Angeles County DCFS children and nine (9) children from other counties. Based on the sample, the placed children's overall average length of placement was five (5) months, and their average age was (16) sixteen years.

Six (6) children were randomly selected for the interview sample, three (3) Probation and three (3) DCFS. There were two (2) children in the sample who were prescribed psychotropic medication, both from DCFS, and those cases were reviewed for timeliness of Psychotropic Medication Authorizations (PMAs) and to confirm the required documentation of psychiatric monitoring. Additionally, four (4) discharged children's files, two (2) Probation and two (2) DCFS, were reviewed to assess compliance with permanency efforts, and five (5) staff files